

## **The Health of African Americans Living in Seattle**

### **A Special Report to the Seattle City Council April 1999**

#### **AFRICAN AMERICAN ROUNDTABLE - SUMMARY**

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Three Roundtable meetings October 28, 1998, February 10, 1999, and February 18, 1999, drew nearly 30 participants from the Seattle community and from Public Health - Seattle & King County (PHSKC). All are working in an appropriate setting and with the commitment to improve the health status of African Americans in Seattle.

#### **Ideas for Collaboration**

1. Report to Seattle City Councilmember Richard McIver: Provide input to report and continue dialogue with Council.
2. African American Health Website: Create and maintain interactive website with health information and links to related sites.
3. African American Health Directory/Resource Guide: Augment existing community resource information with health-specific document.
4. Fall Conference on African American Health: Plan and sponsor community conference to disseminate information and further develop plan for addressing African American Health issues.

#### **Development of Trust**

The Roundtable discussions have led to increased trust among the group and a conscious effort must be made to further increase and maintain the trust. Working on mutual, successful projects will contribute to this.

#### **Next Steps**

Shelley Cooper-Ashford, as chair of the African American Health Coalition of Washington, and Dr. Cheza Collier from PHSKC will call and staff a task force meeting of a majority of participants in the Roundtable. The task force will divide the tasks associated with the suggested collaborations and begin work on these.